

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 06574 212017Z
ACTION EB-08

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FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-20 TRSE-00 XMB-04
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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2970

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EMIN, JM
SUBJECT: JAMAICA MOVES BACK INTO SECOND POSITION IN WORLD BAUXITE
PRODUCTION IN 1977

REF: (A) KINGSTON A-11, (B) KINGSTON 5271

1. ACCORDING TO THE JAMAICA BAUXITE INSTITUTE'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1977 WHICH NOTED WORLD PRODUCTION FIGURES, JAMAICA MOVED BACK INTO SECOND POSITION IN WORLD BAUXITE PRODUCTION - A POSITION IT LOST TO GUINEA IN 1976. BOTH COUNTRIES TRAIL TOP PRODUCER - AUSTRALIA. 1977 BAUXITE PRODUCTION FIGURES FOR AUSTRALIA, JAMAICA AND GUINEA ARE RESPECTIVELY:
(A) 26.1 MILLION METRIC TONNES, (B) 11.4 MILLION METRIC TONNES AND (C) 10.9 MILLION METRIC TONNES.

2. THE REPORT NOTED IMPROVEMENT IN 1977 OVER 1976 IN THE BAUXITE/ALUMINA INDUSTRY BOTH IN PRODUCTION AND REVENUES EARNED. IN 1977 JAMAICA PRODUCED 11.4 MILLION METRIC TONNES OF BAUXITE OR 13.4 PER CENT OF THE WORLD'S TOTAL, VERSUS 10.3 MILLION TONNES IN 1976 OR 12.8 PER CENT OF THE WORLD'S TOTAL. BAUXITE EXPORTS WERE 6.4 MILLION METRIC TONNES IN 1977 COMPARED TO 6.3 MILLION METRIC TONNES IN 1976. ALUMINA PRODUCTION WAS 1.6 MILLION METRIC TONNES IN 1977 COMPARED TO 1.5 MILLION
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METRIC TONNES IN 1976. ALUMINA EXPORTS WERE 2.0 MILLION METRIC TONNES IN 1977 AS AGAINST 1.6 MILLION METRIC TONNES IN 1976 FOR A 25.5 PERCENT INCREASE (SEE REF A FOR DETAILED TABLES).

3. DIRECT GOJ REVENUES FOR 1977 RESULTING FROM LEVIES, TAXES AND ROYALTIES AMOUNTED TO APPROXIMATELY US\$190 MILLION,

AND ARE EXPECTED TO REACH A RECORD US\$200 MILLION (J\$324 MILLION) IN 1978. JAMAICA'S CUMULATIVE REVENUE FROM LEVIES, TAXES AND ROYALTIES OVER THE LAST FOUR YEARS SURPASSED US\$600 MILLION.

4. BAUXITE WAS DISPOSED OF ENTIRELY IN THE UNITED STATES DURING 1977. HOWEVER, ALUMINA EXPORTS WENT MAINLY TO EUROPE (49.7 PERCENT) AND NORTH AMERICA (44.9 PERCENT). A BREAKDOWN OF THE TOP FOUR COUNTRIES TO WHICH JAMAICAN ALUMINA IS SHIPPED FOLLOWS:

COUNTRY	QUANTITY (METRIC TONNES)	PER CENT OF TOTAL
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UNITED STATES	693,000	34.0
NORWAY	563,000	27.7
UNITED KINGDOM	358,000	17.6
CANADA	221,000	10.9

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Message Attributes

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